

WAR IN THE PHILIPPINES.

STORY OF THE GREAT NAVAL BATTLE AT MANILA TOLD BY MEN WHO TOOK PART IN IT.

San Francisco, June 7.—Among the passengers who arrived on the Belgic to-day from Hong Kong were four men who took part in the battle of Manila on May 1. They are Paymaster G. A. Loud, of the dispatch-boat McCulloch; Dr. Charles P. Kindelberger, surgeon of the Olympia; Ralph Phelps, secretary to the captain of the McCulloch, and J. C. Evans, gunner of the Boston. They left Manila on May 5. Dr. Kindelberger and Evans are going home on account of expiration of their sea time. Paymaster Loud and Mr. Phelps are here on business, and will return to the McCulloch. They all speak of the valor and determination of their opponents in the battle of Manila. They say that the Spaniards fought bravely, even after the last vestige of hope had gone, and stayed by their guns as long as they could be used.

THE OLYMPIA'S SHARE IN THE FIGHT.

Dr. Kindelberger gives a graphic account of the fight. He was on the Olympia through it all. In the first assault the flagship took the lead, the other vessels following in her wake at four ship-lengths. The Spanish fleet was approached by lops, each turn bringing the contestants nearer. By this plan the American vessels frequently poured broadsides into the enemy, but were themselves more exposed to fire. At one time the smoke became so dense that it was necessary to draw aside, allowing the cloud to lift. The vessels were examined and it was found that they had sustained no damage. Breakfast was served to the men, and in a few minutes they re-entered the fight with the greatest enthusiasm. The second fight was even more fierce than the first. It was in that that the Baltimore was struck.

During the first fight the Spanish Admiral's ship put bravely out of the line to meet the Olympia. The entire American fleet concentrated fire on her, and she was so badly injured that she turned around to put back. At this juncture the Olympia let fly an 8-inch shell, which struck her stern and pierced through almost her entire length, exploding finally in the engine-room, wrecking her machinery. This shell killed the captain and sixty men, and set the vessel on fire.

In the heat of the fight two torpedo-boats moved out to attack the fleet. They were allowed to come within eight hundred yards, when a fusillade from the Olympia sent one to the bottom with all on board and ridged the other. The second boat was later found turned up on the beach covered with blood.

THE BALTIMORE BLEW UP A FORT.

In the second fight the Baltimore was sent to silence the fort at Cavite. She plunged into a cloud of smoke and opened her batteries on the fortifications. In a very few minutes a shell struck the ammunition and the fort blew up with a deafening roar. The work on the Baltimore was glorious.

After the principal ships had been destroyed, the Concord, the Raleigh and the Petrel, being of light draught, were sent close in to handle the remaining vessels of the fleet. They made quick work of them. In taking possession of the land forts several hundred wounded Spaniards fell into the hands of the Americans, and nearly two hundred dead were accounted for on the spot. Holes, in which numbers had been hastily buried, were found. The bodies were returned to relatives as this could be done, and the wounded were cared for in the best manner by the American surgeons.

LOSSES OF THE SPANIARDS.

The Spanish loss footed up 400 killed, 600 wounded and a property loss of anywhere from \$10,000,000 to \$10,000,000. The day of the fight was clear and hot, not a breath of air stirring. After the first battle the Americans were greatly fatigued by heat, and the rest and breakfast allowed to them by the Commodore were of inestimable benefit. When the men were at breakfast a conference of all officers was held on board the Olympia, when the plan of the second battle was made known by the Commodore.

SEVERAL SHOTS STRUCK THE OLYMPIA.

Several shots struck the Olympia, and she was pierced a number of times. One shell struck the side of the ship against the hospital ward. The chaplain and nurses, who were watching the fight through a porthole a few inches away, were stunned by the concussion.

Experts have figured out that the fighting volume of the guns of the respective sides of the battle was three for the Americans against seven for the Spanish. It is clear, then, that the superiority was in the ships and the men, the latter having the experience and the nerve.

GUNNER EVANS, OF THE BOSTON, DIRECTED THE FIRE OF ONE OF THE BIG GUNS.

Not a man on the Boston received a scratch. Paymaster Loud, who was on the McCulloch in the battle, was a witness of occurrences on both sides. From his position he could see every movement of the American ships, and could also see the Spaniards.

"For two hours," said Mr. Loud, "the steady thunder of cannon was kept up. The roar was terrible. At one time I really thought we would be beaten. This was after the fire had been kept up an hour. It looked as if every gun on the Spanish ships had turned loose on us all together, and the shore line was a veritable blaze of fire from the batteries. The din was simply indescribable. Tons upon tons of shot fell over our ships. There was steel enough to have sunk our entire fleet."

"Our salvation was in the bad marksmanship of the Spaniards. They handled their pieces like children. Nearly all of their shots went wide. Most of them were high, flying over the fleet and falling into the bay, beyond."

"Some of the batteries, however, were better trained. Several guns maintained a raking fire on the fleet. Nearly all of our ships were struck by both large and small shot, but no damage of consequence was done."

"We left Manila on the 5th. At that time Commodore Dewey was in possession of the shore forts and arsenal. Considerable ammunition and some fair guns were captured."

"Manila, on the opposite side of the bay, had not been taken, and it was not the intention of the Commodore to do so at that time. Of course the city and its suburbs were completely at the mercy of our guns, and we could have laid it in ruins in a very short time. But the force on the warships is too small to land and take possession."

TO DEMAND THE SURRENDER OF MANILA.

"When the troops arrive from San Francisco Commodore Dewey will demand the immediate surrender of the city and the troops stationed there. If a refusal is given, fire at once will be opened from the warships and forcible possession will be taken."

"There will be no difficulty in holding Manila and the Philippines. Complete subjugation of the Spanish forces in the group will be accomplished without trouble, and with very little danger to American life. The insurgents are very friendly, and at the time we left were besieging the town in large force. They are acting under orders of Admiral Dewey."

Both Dr. Kindelberger and Gunner Evans had been ordered home before the battle of Manila, but when they learned that a battle was imminent they asked permission to remain with the fleet. This was allowed, and immediately after the battle they started for home.

When the Belgic left Hong Kong, on May 10, the bubonic plague was raging, many deaths occurring among the white population.

One hundred and fifty miles out from Honolulu the Belgic sighted the transport steamer Australia, City of Peking and City of Sydney, which signalled that all were well on board.

AGUINALDO'S PROCLAMATION.

WANTS TO ESTABLISH NATIVE GOVERNMENT UNDER AMERICAN PROTECTION.

London, June 8.—Hong Kong advices say Aguinaldo has issued a proclamation pointing to a desire to set up a native administration in the Philippines under an American protectorate, and after the war to establish a republican assembly.

AN AMERICAN NAVAL CAPTAIN WRITES AS FOLLOWS:

"In my opinion, the rebels have undergone a radical change since the arrival of Aguinaldo. The Spaniards have lost all during the time he has been here, and if our people don't hurry there won't be any Spanish army left at the end of the fight."

"The American ships have taken no part in the fighting. Neither boats nor men have been landed, and statements to the contrary are false. Dispatches from Manila say that Aguinaldo is doing splendid work. On Monday of last week he routed the Spaniards, taking four hundred prisoners, among them twenty-eight officers. On Wednesday following he took fifty prisoners and four field pieces in a battle."

"On Thursday, when this dispatch left Manila, he had cornered 150 Spaniards in an old church at Cavite, and, not caring to bombard, he was starving them out. He treats his prisoners well. Four towns are now in possession of the rebels. It is reported that the Governor-General of the Philippines wanted to surrender, but his officers prevailed upon him to hold out. The capital of the Province of Batangas has been taken by the insurgents, and the Governor attempted to commit suicide. The Governor of Malabar is also a prisoner. The insurgents from other provinces are advancing on Manila."

"Aguinaldo, with an advisory council, would hold the dictatorship until the conquest of the islands, and would then establish a republican assembly."

"Aguinaldo has issued orders that the lives and property of Europeans, Chinese and all Spanish non-combatants are to be protected, and that all excesses are to be avoided."

HOW AGUINALDO FIGHTS.

London, June 8.—The Hong Kong correspondent of "The Daily Mail" says:

"United States Consul Wildman has received the following letter from Aguinaldo, the insurgent leader in the Philippines:

"Before opening an attack upon any town I summon the Spanish officer in command to surrender. In one case one of the officers so summoned replied by stating that the garrison was not quite ready to fight, and he asked if I would defer the attack for three hours. I complied."

"The first engagement we had with the Spanish occurred on May 28, when we captured nineteen, with their arms and ammunition. Toward evening we hemmed them in. One hundred and ninety Cazadores and seventy loyal natives participated. We lost four killed. The Spaniards lost sixteen killed, including one officer. The result of this engagement was that fighting became general throughout the Province of Cavite. After four days' fighting over two thousand Spaniards were taken prisoners, including many officers and General Leopoldo Pena, Governor of Cavite, who handed me his sword, revolver and golden belt and a formal letter of surrender."

REBELS SURROUNDING MANILA.

London, June 8.—The Manila Railway Company has received the following dispatch from its superintendent at Manila:

"The line has been cut in the first section; the rails have been removed and there is no means of communication between the second and third sections. Traffic is suspended. The rebels are surrounding Manila, and an attack is expected any day."

REBELS CAPTURE IMPORTANT POINT.

London, June 8.—A dispatch to "The Daily Telegraph" from Manila, dated June 3, says:

"The Spaniards in the church in old Cavite are still holding out, but the adjacent town of Imus has been captured by the insurgents. This is an important point at the back of Cavite, and its possession by the rebels is a proper matter for the Spaniards, because it is the outlet to the surrounding country, and through it supplies are brought to the city of Manila. It will also afford an admirable base of operations for a further advance toward the city."

SPANISH LOSSES AT MANILA.

London, June 7.—A dispatch to "The Times" from Manila, referring to the fighting of May 30 and June 1, says the Spanish loss in killed, wounded and prisoners was heavy. But, the correspondent adds, the most serious feature of all for Spain is the defection of hundreds of native auxiliaries. He adds:

"One native regiment deserted after killing its officers and massacring a company of Spanish infantry, and rebels and ex-rebels on both sides have been shot because they were suspected of treachery to their respective generals. The Spaniards are endeavoring by every means to retain the rebels, who are attracted by promises of pardon and high offices. But Aguinaldo's attraction is stronger. He has completely surrounded Manila, by cutting the railroads and holding the rivers by which food had previously reached the city. If the city is not soon reached by the rebels, it will starve into surrender. The rebels may carry it, having now an increasing number of rifles and field guns."

"Aguinaldo's treatment of the Spanish prisoners is exemplary. Few excesses are reported except where priests were mutilated before being killed."

"Admiral Dewey is not assisting the rebels, but it is probably due to him that Aguinaldo's forces avoid excesses."

"Foreigners, with the exception of the French nuns, remain in Manila, but are ready to board the refugee steamers as soon as the necessity arises."

EUROPE AND AMERICAN CONQUESTS.

London, June 8.—The Paris correspondent of "The Standard" says:

"The French and Russian governments are exchanging views as to the expediency of subjecting such conquests as the United States may make and hold good in China seas to European sanction at a conference or congress."

MONTEREY AND BRUTUS UNDER WAY.

San Francisco, June 7.—The principal event in the local war situation to-day was the departure of the monitor Monterey and the collier Brutus for Manila. The order to get under way was issued at about 1 o'clock, and shortly afterward the wharves and docks on the water-front were crowded with persons anxious to witness the departure of the warship and the collier which is to accompany her.

CAPTAIN GRIDLEY'S BODY TO BE BURNED.

Washington, June 7.—At the suggestion of Mrs. Gridley, widow of Captain Gridley, late commander of the Acting Secretary of the Navy Dewey's fleet, the Acting Secretary of the Navy to-day cabled instructions to Paymaster Galt, at Manila, to turn the body of the dead officer over to Mr. Copman, of that city, with a view to its cremation. This action was taken in deference to the known wishes of the dead man, and was based upon information that proper facilities for such work exist in Yokohama.

ADMIRAL SAMPSON REPORTS.

FORTS AT SANTIAGO SILENCED.

AMERICAN SHIPS UNINJURED—TROOPS PROBABLY LANDED.

Washington, June 7.—Shortly after 7 o'clock this evening information confirmatory of the Associated Press dispatches concerning the bombardment of the fortifications of Santiago reached the Navy Department. It came in the form of a cable dispatch from Admiral Sampson, which was made public in the following bulletin:

Secretary of the Navy: Bombarded forts at Santiago 7:30 to 10 a. m. to-day, June 6. Silenced works quickly without injury of any kind, though within 2,000 yards.

SAMPSON.

While the officials of the Navy Department declined to say definitely whether the bulletin contained all the information given in Admiral Sampson's dispatch, there is reason to believe that it did not. The officials refused to discuss the subject or to vouchsafe further information than was posted on the bulletin board.

Only one additional point was elicited by questioning. That was that the dispatch contained no information about the landing of either land forces or marines.

The information received from Admiral Sampson was evidently satisfactory to the naval authorities. While they declined to discuss either the reasons for or the probable consequences of the bombardment they were thoroughly satisfied with the results accomplished.

It is pretty well understood that the bombardment was for the purpose of paving the way either for the landing of troops or actually to cover the landing of marines and the few troops presumably already there.

Dispatches received by the Associated Press from Spanish sources to-night indicate that a landing was effected either during or immediately after the bombardment. This is regarded by naval authorities as entirely reasonable. It is not believed that Admiral Sampson, after having silenced the forts, would leave them to be rehabilitated by the enemy. It is deemed likely that he landed a sufficient force of marines to hold the ground he had gained, and to make preparations for the landing of the regular forces upon their arrival. If, indeed, some of them are not already at hand.

ALL READY TO ISSUE BONDS.

THE TREASURY HAS ALL ITS PREPARATIONS MADE FOR THE LOAN.

Washington, June 7.—Preparations are substantially complete at the Treasury Department to invite offers for the bonds for carrying on the Spanish war as soon as the bonds are authorized by Congress. There will not be a delay of two days in issuing a circular stating the terms under which the bonds are offered, and inviting bids at par. Envelopes have already been prepared addressed to every National bank, to the postmaster at every money-order office and to the representatives of certain express companies who have offered to aid in the placing of the loan.

The circulars announcing the loan will be put in these envelopes and dispatched as soon as the exact terms of the act of Congress are known. It is the present intention to offer \$200,000,000 in bonds at once, reserving the right to issue an additional \$100,000,000 under the provisions of the act of Congress. The Finance Committee in case an additional issue becomes necessary.

Thirty days probably will be given for receiving bids before the loan is allotted. Allotments will be made at once, however, for the full amount of all bids for \$1,000 or less. It is not anticipated that these will reach a sufficient amount to absorb the whole loan, but it is desired to give the preference to small bidders.

FEARS SPANISH TREACHERY.

London, June 7.—A letter has been received in this city dated on board the British second-class cruiser Charybdis, which recently arrived at Las Palmas, Grand Canary, with her decks cleared for action, having sailed in response to alarming news as to the condition of the island, and expecting to be fired upon on entering the harbor.

The officers of the Charybdis, previous to their arrival, understood that the wife of the British Consul had been murdered, and that the British residents, these reports arising from the facts that shots were fired while the Consul's wife was passing a certain place, and that an American flag was seen flying in front of an Englishman's house. In the letter the writer says:

"We have had a rather ticklish time since our arrival, as the natives think we have formed an alliance with America, so we are quite prepared should they attempt another Maine treachery. Nightly the ship does all her lights and sentries stand ready, with all ammunition, in case any boat approaches after dark, unless it is a satisfactory answer when hailed. We have a boat armed nightly after 8 o'clock, and all the quick-firing machine-gun crews are ready for action."

"All the water-tight doors are closed, so that it will be a pretty large hole they will have to blow into us to sink us."

REINFORCEMENTS AT GIBRALTAR.

Gibraltar, June 7.—The Spanish garrison in the neighborhood of Gibraltar has been reinforced by additional troops at San Roque, with further reinforcements at Tarifa, Barrios and Algeciras. Temporary huts will be erected to accommodate them.

CAPTAIN SIGSBEE AGAIN ON BOARD.

THE ST. PAUL APPARENTLY PREPARING FOR A LONG CRUISE.

The United States auxiliary cruiser St. Paul still lay at anchor off Tompkinsville last night. All day yesterday she continued to take on coal and provisions. Captain Sigbee returned yesterday from Washington and went on board his vessel. It is supposed that he received definite orders regarding the immediate employment of the cruiser. On account of the immense amount of coal and provisions taken on by the cruiser, the belief is entertained in many quarters that she is going on a long cruise, but whether cannot be learned, as the officers of the vessel maintain the strictest taciturnity. It was learned, however, that the cruiser is ready to sail at an instant's notice, and it is believed that she will pick up her anchor and proceed to sea to-day.

THE GOVERNOR DID NOT PROMISE.

Albany, June 7.—A committee representing the 13th Regiment, of Brooklyn, waited on Governor Black to-day and asked him to reorganize the regiment, taking the battalion of four companies formerly a part of the regiment now attached to the 22d Regiment, as the nucleus for such organization.

The committee consisted of Quartermaster-Sergeant George A. Wilson, of Company H; First Sergeant F. A. McGinty, of Company G; and Drum-major Edward McGinty. They told the Governor they represented three hundred members of the old regiment, who were anxious to be reorganized in the position in which it has been placed by refusing to volunteer as an organization. The people of Brooklyn, they also said, would be delighted with a reorganization of the command according to the proposition which they advocated. The Governor did not make any definite promise.

STUDY LAW AT HOME.

Particularly free. The Sprague Correspondence School of Law, No. 33 Telephone Building, Detroit, Mich.—Adv.

WAR NEWS OF TO-DAY.

A dispatch was received by the Navy Department at Washington from Admiral Sampson saying that he had bombarded the forts at Santiago and completely silenced them.

Cape Haytien and Madrid dispatches indicate that while the American warships attacked the forts about Santiago de Cuba the insurgents engaged the Spanish forces on land and United States troops were landed a few miles east of Santiago.

It was thought in Washington that the troops at Tampa had begun to embark for Santiago.

Aguinaldo, the insurgent leader in the Philippines, has issued a proclamation pointing to a desire to establish a native government under an American protectorate.

The monitor Monterey started from San Francisco for Manila, accompanied by the collier Brutus, which will tow her from Honolulu.

The auxiliary cruiser Buffalo, formerly the Brazilian warship Nieheroy, arrived at Newport News yesterday. She will be armed and armored so as to make a formidable fighting ship.

The French line steamer Lafayette, from Havana to Vera Cruz, which touched at Corunna, has on board General Blanco's aide-de-camp, who bears official dispatches to the Spanish Government.

Lieutenant-Commander Sturdy, of the Pompey, died of apoplexy; his funeral was held at Key West.

ANGLO-AMERICAN AGREEMENT.

A SIGNIFICANT STATEMENT MADE BY MR. CURZON IN THE COMMONS.

London, June 7.—George N. Curzon, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, replying in the House of Commons to-day to a question about the Canadian agreement, said:

"Negotiations have taken place at Washington for the settlement of all pending questions between Great Britain and the United States."

"The Daily News," commenting editorially on Mr. Curzon's statement, says:

"If this is not a lapsus lingue, it is a very important extension of the original statement, which exclusively affected Canada's interests. The words Great Britain appear in the written text of the answer supplied from the Foreign Office."

CUBAN CABLE PROBABLY CUT.

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Capt Haytien, Hayti, June 7, 11:35 p. m.—From all indications the cable between Hayti and Cuba has not worked since Monday at midnight. It is probably cut.

SAYS AMERICANS WERE REPULSED.

London, June 8.—The correspondent of "The Times" at Havana says the American attempt to land at Aguadores was repulsed.

"THE LONDON TIMES" COMMENTS.

London, June 8.—"The London Times," commenting editorially upon the fact that the Cuban authorities at Havana permitted its correspondent, Mr. Knight, to discharge his function in forwarding the dispatch as to Monday's engagement at Santiago, says:

"His dispatch says that 'The American fire was damaging.' As he doubtless is subjected to rigid censorship, this admission is significant, and his statement that the Americans were repulsed at Aguadores is probably correct."

The editorial, in summing up the situation, says:

"Spanish obstinacy may prolong the war for many months. The American Government is acting wisely and prudently in refusing to send to Cuba an army of untrained volunteers. Little attention need be given to peace rumors."

HAVANA PREPARING FOR A SIEGE.

Havana, June 6, 10 p. m. (Delayed in Transmission).—Work on the fortifications about Havana is being pushed without an hour's intermission. Even the Civil Governor of Havana and all the employees of the Government are at work on the forts and batteries, and all persons out of work are finding employment.

The cultivation zones are turning out very successful, and are proving a great relief to the poor.

SPANIARDS DEFEAT INSURGENTS.

Havana, June 7.—It is announced from the Palace that a Spanish column has defeated an insurgent force near Pinar del Rio. In the Province of Pinar del Rio. The insurgents are said to have left seventeen men dead on the field. The Spaniards admit they lost fifteen men killed.

In encounters which have taken place recently between the Spaniards and the insurgents, the former say they have killed thirty-seven of the latter, have destroyed several camps and thirty-three huts, and have captured a quantity of arms and ammunition.

AMBASSADOR HAY AND CUBA.

London, June 7.—The call which Colonel John Hay, the United States Ambassador, made at the Foreign Office yesterday followed the receipt by him of a long cable message from the State Department at Washington. He had an extended talk with the Foreign Office officials, during which important matters relative to Cuba were discussed.

Colonel Hay declined to furnish any information as to the result of the conference.

BEARS DISPATCHES TO SPAIN.

Corunna, June 7.—The Compagnie Generale Transatlantique steamer Lafayette, from Havana and Vera Cruz, arrived here to-day. Her passengers include Captain-General Blanco's aide-de-camp, who bears official dispatches to the Spanish Government.

The Lafayette was captured off Havana on May 5, after an exciting chase, by the United States gunboat Annapolis, while trying to run the blockade. It has had several times been warned off by the blocking vessels. She had on board a large number of passengers and a valuable general cargo. After an examination of the Lafayette's papers had been made, a prize crew from the Annapolis was placed on board of her and she was brought to Key West, escorted by the United States cruiser Wilmington.

On the following day orders were received from the Navy Department at Washington to release the Lafayette instantly and to send her to Havana under escort. It having been decided that an error had been committed by the naval officers making the capture. It appears that before the Lafayette sailed for Havana the French Legation in Washington was instructed to communicate with the State Department. This was done, and permission was granted to the steamer to enter and discharge her passengers and cargo at Havana, with the understanding that she was to take on nothing there.

After this work was completed the Lafayette sailed for Corunna, making stops at Vera Cruz, Mexico, and Kingston, Jamaica.

SWORD FOR GENERAL NELSON COLE.

St. Louis, June 7.—At a reception in honor of his recent appointment as Brigadier-General by President McKinley the Frank Blair Post, G. A. R., presented Colonel Nelson Cole with a handsome sword. The presentation speech was made by General John S. Noble, Secretary of the Interior under President Harrison.

THE INVASION OF CUBA BEGUN.

AMERICAN TROOPS SAID TO HAVE EFFECTED A JUNCTION WITH INSURGENTS NEAR SANTIAGO.

THE FORTS SILENCED BY ADMIRAL SAMPSON'S GUNS.

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Cape Haytien, Hayti, June 7, 10 p. m.—According to the latest direct advices from Santiago de Cuba, dated Monday at midnight, the bombardment, which began at 7:45 a. m. yesterday, and continued until 10:30 o'clock in the morning, was resumed again for a short time about midnight.

It was then believed that the Americans had effected a junction with the insurgents near Baiquiri, some distance east of Aguadores, and near the railway line to Santiago.

ADMIRAL SAMPSON'S REPORT.

Washington, June 7.—The Navy Department received a dispatch from Admiral Sampson at 7:15 o'clock this evening, announcing that between 7:30 and 10 o'clock yesterday morning he bombarded the Santiago fortifications and entirely silenced them.

CERVERA'S ACCOUNT OF THE FIGHT.

Madrid, June 7, 7 p. m.—The following official dispatch has been received from Admiral Cervera:

"Six American vessels have bombarded the fortifications at Santiago and along the adjacent coast. Six were killed and seventeen were wounded on board the Reina Mercedes; three officers were killed and an officer and seventeen men were wounded among the troops."

"The Americans fired fifteen hundred shells of different calibre. The damage inflicted upon the batteries of La Zocapa and Morro Castle was unimportant. The barracks at Morro Castle suffered damage. The enemy had noticeable losses."

AMERICANS AND INSURGENTS CO-OPERATING.

London, June 8.—A dispatch to "The Daily Mail" from Cape Haytien says: "The American victory at Santiago de Cuba has cleared the way for the entrance of Admiral Sampson and the destruction of the Spanish fleet. As Santiago's land defences are reported weak, it is likely the city will yield to a vigorous attack."

"It is reported that the commander of the Reina Mercedes, second in command in the Spanish fleet under Cervera, was killed during the engagement. The combined American and insurgent forces are entrenched near Baiquiri, with guns mounted, in preparation for a further movement. From Spanish sources comes a report that a party of Americans landed at Aguadores, but whether it is true or what the result was is not known here."

HAVOC CAUSED BY BIG GUNS.

THE NEWS FROM SANTIAGO.

FIERCE ATTACK OF SAMPSON AND SCHLEY ON FORTS.

(Copyright, 1898, The Associated Press.)

On Board The Associated Press Dispatch-boat Dandy, off Santiago de Cuba, June 6 (Noon), via Kingston, Jamaica, June 7 (Noon).—The American fleet this morning engaged the Spanish batteries defending the entrance of the harbor of Santiago de Cuba, and after a three hours' bombardment silenced nearly all the forts, destroying several earthworks, and rendered the Estrella and Cavo batteries, the two principal fortifications, useless.

The fleet formed in double column, six miles off Morro Castle, at 6 o'clock in the morning, and steamed slowly three thousand yards off shore, the Brooklyn leading, followed by the Marblehead, the Texas and the Massachusetts, and turned westward.

The second line, the New-York, the Iowa and the Oregon following, turned eastward.

The Vixen and the Suwanee were far out on the left flank, watching the riflemen on shore. The fortifications near the entrance of the harbor are described as being riddled with solid shot and shattered by the explosion of the immense shells fired by the American battle-ships. The Spanish batteries are understood to have been virtually silenced, and El Morro and the fortifications at Zocapa and Punta Gorda are reported to have been demolished by the three hours' uninterrupted hammering of the American fleet.

The American attack is next said to have been specially directed against Aguadores, a small coast town a little to the east of the entrance of Santiago Bay. The idea of the American Admiral, it appears, was to land troops and siege guns there, after reducing the defences of the place, and thence make a determined and more close assault upon Santiago de Cuba, which, in view of the present condition of its fortifications, may be expected to yield very soon after the beginning of such an attack.

Heavy cannonading was opened upon Aguadores at about midday yesterday.

The latest advices received here from Spanish sources do not indicate the duration of the fire or whether American troops and siege guns were actually landed at Aguadores, but from the information obtainable it cannot be doubted that the net result of Monday's fighting was extremely disastrous to the Spanish defences.

It is also understood here that the Cuban

